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DE RUEHNO #0246 1931444 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 111444Z JUL 08 FM USMISSION USNATO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2072 INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE PRIORITY RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY 0418 RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KYIV PRIORITY 0131 RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY 0852 RUEHYE/AMEMBASSY YEREVAN PRIORITY 0067 RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 5511 RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC PRIORITY RUEHPS/AMEMBASSY PRISTINA PRIORITY 3274 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY RUEKJCS/JCS WASHDC PRIORITY RHMFISS/USNMR SHAPE BE PRIORITY RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

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TAGS: NATO PGOV PREL KV MOPS

SUBJECT: RFG: FRIENDS OF KOSOVO MEETING

REF: A. USNATO 00229

Classified By: CDA Richard G. Olson, Jr. for reasons 1.4 (b and d)

- $\underline{\mathbb{1}}1$ . (U) This is a request for guidance by COB Thursday, July  $\underline{\mathbb{1}}17$ .
- (C) On Friday, July 18 Belgium will host the first meeting of the Friends of Kosovo (see Ref A), a gathering of NATO Permanent Representatives, PSC Ambassadors, and representatives from the United Nations, OSCE, Non-NATO troop contributors, and Non-EU troop contributors, in an informal setting in order to get around some of the theological difficulties of NATO-EU cooperation on Kosovo. Although there will be no formal agenda, discussion is expected to focus on better coordination of international actors operating in Kosovo, with a particular emphasis on the EULEX mission as UNMIK begins its reconfiguration process. Turkey has already rejected any discussion that deals with fixing the revision 3 of the NATO Balkans OPLAN 10501, however, USNATO views this meeting as a good first step which could serve as a basis toward facilitating future NATO-EU discussion on Kosovo. USNATO requests guidance for the Friends of Kosovo meeting on our objectives and other themes and messages that we could deliver to participants, including sensitizing the Turks on being open to future meetings between NATO and the EU on Kosovo. OLSON